



File Code: 1950
Date: February 7, 2018

Dear Interested Party,

Thank you for your interest and participation in the development of the Moonlight Fire Area Invasive Plant Treatment Project. This project is part of the Plumas National Forest Fire Restoration effort. Fire settlement funds received by the Forest Service provide a unique opportunity to restore ecosystem health, function, and resilience. The Moonlight Fire Area Invasive Plant Treatment Project was initiated in July 2015. The preliminary environmental analysis was completed in January 2017 and circulated for comment. The interdisciplinary team has responded to all comments and completed the final Environmental Assessment. The final Environmental Assessment and draft Decision Notice were distributed to individuals who commented during a designated comment period for opportunity to object in June 2017. As the Responsible Officials, Matthew Jedra, Beckwourth District Ranger, and Micki D Smith, Mt. Hough District Ranger we have decided to implement the proposed action described in the final Environmental Assessment and modified by the final Decision Notice.

The Moonlight Invasive Plant Treatment Project proposes to treat priority invasive plant infestations using a combination of manual, mechanical, cultural, and chemical methods. The use of chemical herbicide treatments would not exceed 250 acres annually. Invasive plants proposed for treatment include jointed goatgrass, spotted knapweed, yellow starthistle, Canada thistle, Scotch broom, dyer's woad, and medusahead. Generally, chemical treatment would be considered after other treatments are deemed ineffective or infeasible. Existing and newly discovered infestations would be evaluated for treatment under an annual implementation review process. Project design features would ensure protection of critical resources. The project is located approximately 15 to 27 air miles northeast of Quincy, California and encompasses National Forest System lands within and immediately adjacent to the watersheds affected by the 2007 Moonlight wildfire. The project is located on the Mount Hough and Beckwourth Ranger Districts, Plumas National Forest in Plumas County, California.

The final Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice are available electronically for your review at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/plumas/landmanagement/projects>. Scroll down to Moonlight Fire Area Invasive Plant Treatment Project.

This Project was subject to objection pursuant to 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B. We received three formal objections, all related to concerns about the use of chemical herbicides. All objectors were invited to a resolution conference in September 2017. We were not able to resolve all objections, but have responded to the objections according to instructions issued by the Objection Review Officer, Forest Supervisor Daniel Lovato. Project implementation may begin immediately.



Information on the Moonlight Invasive Plant Treatment Project is available at the Mt. Hough and Beckwourth District Offices and on line, as described above. If you would like a hard copy of the document or need further information, please contact Kyla Sabo at kylasabo@fs.fed.us or 530-283-7652.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Micki Smith".

MICKI SMITH
Mt. Hough District Ranger

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Jedra".

MATTHEW JEDRA
Beckwourth District Ranger